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10/06/2005 JMINOR 00000005 061050 09816492

01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hongyong Zhang
Serial No. : 09/816,492
Filed : March 23, 2001
Title : DISPLAY DEVICE

Art Unit : 2871
Examiner : Minh Toan T. Ton
Confirmation No.: 1777

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF APRIL 5, 2005

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

FEE ONLY

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REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending, with claims 1, 8, 12, 16 and 20 being independent. Claims 1, 8, 12, 16 and 20 have been amended, with support for the amendments being found in the application at, for example, page 7, lines 16-24, and Fig. 1, which describe a conductive lead-out line 115 that is connected between a pixel electrode and the drain of a TFT, and is formed on the same layer as a conductive black matrix 116. The specification has been amended to correct a minor labeling error. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1-3, 5 and 6 have been rejected as being anticipated by Sugawara (JP 05-127195), and claims 4 and 7 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Sugawara. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Sugawara does not describe or suggest a conductive layer formed on a same layer as the black matrix for use in connecting the pixel electrode to a thin film transistor, as recited in claim 1.

One advantage of such an arrangement is that it reduces the distance that the pixel electrode needs to extend in order to make contact with the TFT. This is beneficial because indium tin oxide (ITO), a material typically used in forming pixel electrodes, has a relatively high resistivity. Thus, by reducing the distance that a high resistivity pixel electrode has to extend, the power consumption associated with the pixel electrode is similarly reduced.

Claims 8-23 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Sugawara in view of Wakai. Similarly to claim 1, each of independent claims 8, 12 and 16 recites a second conductive layer that is formed on a same layer as a light shielding conductive layer and through which a pixel electrode is electrically connected to a thin film transistor, and independent claim 20 recites a second conductive layer that is formed on a same layer as a light shielding conductive layer and is electrically connected to a pixel electrode. Accordingly, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Sugawara, as noted above with respect to claim 1, does not describe or suggest such a conductive layer, and because Wakai does not remedy this failure of Sugawara.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant also reminds the Examiner that similar claims are being prosecuted in related U.S. Application Serial No.

11/002,659 (the child of the present application), which the Examiner is also examining. Applicant asks that the Examiner consider those claims when evaluating the patentability of the present claims.

Enclosed is a $120 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/2/05

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